

## SPORTS

# Kings' Chris Webber may miss a month

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) - Chris Webber's sprained left ankle will be re-evaluated later this week, though the Sacramento Kings still believe their All-NBA forward will miss at least a month of action.

Webber, who signed a seven-year, \$123 million contract during the offseason, suffered a high ankle sprain five minutes into the Kings' 107-88 exhibition victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Sunday night. The team said Webber is expected to miss 4-to-6 weeks.

"Sometimes you have to let the initial trauma subside, and then you can get a better read on where you're going," Kings vice president of basketball operations Geoff Petrie said. "In another four or five days, we'll get an opportunity to get a better read on his situation, and we'll go from there."

Webber wasn't at the Kings' training complex on Monday, but he will begin a rehabilitation program shortly. X-rays on Webber's ankle revealed no broken bones, and Petrie said nothing had changed from the team trainers' original diagnosis on Sunday night.

Webber's injury throws an unwanted complication into a season of high expectations for the Kings, who expect to contend for the NBA title after adding point guard Mike

Bibby to the team that finished last season with the league's best offense and its fourth-best record.

Petrie said he had confidence in his team's remaining roster, noting that the Kings thrived last season when Webber missed 10 games with a sprained ankle. His current sprain is in a different spot.

"The fortunate thing is it's not a broken bone," Petrie said. "It's in a different area than his sprain from last season. It's neither a season-ending nor a career-ending injury."

Sacramento will explore possible trade options to bolster the team's depth, but Petrie said no deals were imminent. Scot Pollard is likely to take Webber's spot in the Kings' starting lineup.

With Webber out, an added scoring burden will fall upon forward Peja Stojakovic, who reported to camp in tremendous shape after leading Yugoslavia to the European Championship this summer, and Bibby, who scored 15 points against the Mavericks on Sunday night. "I like our roster a lot, and I think we still have a lot of versatility, but the reality is you cannot go out and replace a player of Chris' quality with his overall contributions," Petrie said.

## Quincy Carter leans on Doug Williams

IRVING, Texas (AP) - Quincy Carter needs all the friends he can get.

The Dallas Cowboys' rookie quarterback has thrown interceptions, he's fumbled snaps and he's torn his left hamstring. He's even had respected, future Hall-of-Fame teammates question whether he should even be starting.

So when times get rough for Carter - which has been often this season - he knows he can lean on his new friend and longtime idol, former Super Bowl MVP Doug Williams.

"Doug went through it all - good and bad," Carter said. "It's good to be able to talk to someone who understands the game and things about life."

Williams got the idea to call Carter during the pre-season as his nephew, tight end Johnny Huggins, was in a battle to make the team.

Reaching out to young quarterbacks is something Williams, the first black quarterback to win a Super Bowl, has done for years since retiring from the NFL in 1989.

"When I was growing up, I remember a lot of black quarterbacks coming back to talk to him," Huggins said. "Guys like Randall Cunningham would always come by the house."

Williams had to endure his share of headaches as the first quarterback from a pre-

dominantly black college to be picked in the first round of the NFL draft.

Like Carter, Williams spent much of his early NFL years trying to prove doubters wrong. He finally put the stamp on his career with an MVP performance in the 1988 Super Bowl, leading Washington to a dominating 42-10 win over the Denver Broncos.

"I've been there, done that," said Williams, now the head coach at Grambling. "Quincy's got to learn on the run. Hopefully while he's learning he'll get mentally strong."

Carter, who turned 24 on Saturday, said he was floored by Williams' initial call. As a high school quarterback in DeKalb, Ga., Carter changed his jersey number to 17 in honor of Williams.

"When we first started talking, Quincy said how much he admired me. I appreciated it because very few players are strong enough to say that," Williams said with a laugh. "He also said, 'Man, I've got to get one of your jerseys to hang in my house.'"

"We just talk about real life. He appreciates me calling. He's always saying, 'Thanks, Doug.'"

After a few weeks of calls during the pre-season, Carter finally got a chance to meet Williams during the Cowboys' season-opener against Tampa Bay.

It was the highlight of an

otherwise miserable day for Carter.

The rookie completed 9 of 19 passes for 34 yards, was intercepted twice and fumbled twice, losing one - the third-worst passing performance in Cowboys' history. Dallas lost 10-6.

Williams still left Dallas impressed with Carter's conviction following the embarrassing debut.

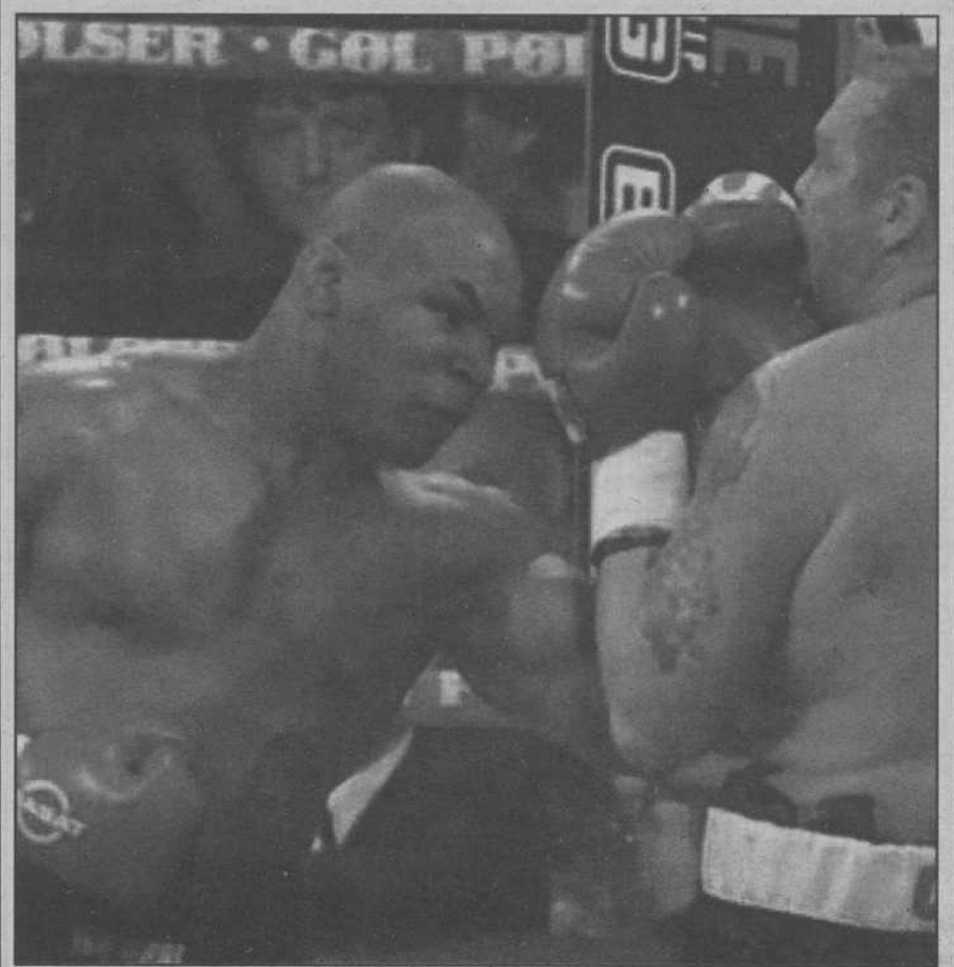
"One thing about Quincy, he's a confident individual," Williams said. He's a lot more mature than your average rookie. He's keeping his head up and not getting caught up in the media hype."

But the problems were just beginning for Carter.

He missed the next two games with an injured right thumb, giving backup Anthony Wright a chance to post some modest numbers. After Wright led Dallas to its first three touchdowns of the season against San Diego, Cowboys running back Emmitt Smith said Wright should start in place of Carter.

It didn't take long for Carter to pick up the phone and vent to Williams.

"I know there's a little thing going on there," Williams said. "He asked me, 'You see what's going on?' I said it's a new ballgame, you've got to keep your head up." These days, Carter is hobbling around on a torn left hamstring that will likely keep him off the field for about six weeks.



## EAT THIS

Former heavyweight World Champion Mike Tyson (L) from the U.S. and a punch on IBC heavyweight champion Brian Nielsen from Denmark during a non-title heavyweight fight at Copenhagen's Parken stadium. Tyson beat Nielsen when the referee stopped the bout at the start of the seventh round of their scheduled 10-round heavyweight bout on Saturday. Tyson feels he will be ready to fight for the world title soon.

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